LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

ELEVENTH DAY.

Monday 5th, November 1951.

The Legislative Assembly met in the Assembly Hall, Old Public Offices, Bangalore, at Five Minutes past One of the Clock.

Mr. Speaker (The Hon'ble Sri V. Venkatappa) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

MR. SPEAKER (The Hon'ble Sri V. Venkatappa).—Questions. The questions relating to the Hon'ble Chief Minister will not be taken up now.

Increasing the rates of Dearness Allowance to Non-gazetted Officers.

Q.—171. SRI K. R. SREEKANTESWAR (Bangalore City—General).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether they have received any representations from the mofussil and Central Associations of the non-Gazetted Officers requesting them to raise the rates of Dearness Allowance paid to them to the level of the scales paid to similar officials of the Government of India ;

(*b*) if so, the action taken by them on these representations ;

(*c*) the rates of Dearness Allowance paid to the non-gazetted officers of the State together with the corresponding rates of Dearness Allowance granted by the Government of India (particulars in respect of the several grades of pay may be furnished) ;

(*d*) whether they are aware that in addition to higher rates of Dearness Allowance, the officials of the Government of India working in the State get house rent, city compensatory allowances, etc. ;

(*e*) whether the question of grant of similar rates of Dearness Allowance and other allowances to the non-gazetted officers is under the consideration :

(*f*) whether they are aware that according to the figures published by the Reserve Bank of India, there has been a steep rise in the price levels of our State ;

(*g*) whether the rates of Dearness Allowance paid by them have any relation to the cost of living index ;

(*h*) the reason for the wide disparity between the rates of Dearness Allowance paid to our non-gazetted officers and those paid to similar officials of the Government of India though the cost of living is the same for both ?

A.—The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA (Minister for Finance and Industries).—

(*a*) Yes ;

(*b*) Under consideration of Government ;

(*c*) Statement appended below ;

(*d*) Yes ;

(*e*) No ;

(*f*) No reference to the State by the Reserve Bank of India ;

(*g*) Yes, to the extent practicable ;

(*h*) The reason lies in the ability of the concerned Government to pay.

Comparative statement showing the Dearness Allowance existing in Mysore and that in Government of India.

MYSORE			GOVERNMENT OF INDIA								
	Dearness Allowance in			Dearness Allowance		House Rent Allowance			Compensatory Allowance at		
	Bangalore	Other places				Bangalore	Mysore		Bangalore	Mysore	
Non-Gazetted and Gazetted Officers.			*A. Non-Gazetted Officers and Married Gazetted Officers.*								
Those drawing a Pay of —	Rs.	Rs.	Those drawing a pay of—	Rs.	Those drawing a pay—	Rs.	Rs.	Those drawing a pay—	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Rs. 25 and below per mensem.	15	12	1. Rs. 50 and below per mensem.	40	1. Up to Rs. 55	7	5	Up to Rs. 54 ...	3	...	
2. Rs. 26 to 80 per mensem.	18	15	2. Rs. 51 to Rs. 100 per mensem.	50	2. Rs. 55 to 100	10	7	Rs. 55 to 100 ...	5	...	
3. Rs. 81 to Rs. 100 per mensem.	22½	18	3. Rs. 101 to Rs. 150 per mensem.	55	3. Rs. 101 to 250	15	...	Rs. 101 to Rs. 140	7	...	
4. Rs. 101 to Rs. 150 per mensem.	30	22½	4. Rs. 151 to Rs. 200 per mensem.	60	4. Above Rs. 160	...	Equal to the amount by which pay falls short of Rs. 107.	Rs. 141 and above	10	...	
5. Rs. 151 to Rs. 250 per mensem.	37½	30	5. Rs. 201 to Rs. 250 per mensem.	65							
6. Rs. 251 to Rs. 500 per mensem.	40	30	6. Rs. 251 to Rs. 300 per mensem.	65							
7. Rs. 501 to Rs. 800 per mensem.	50	40	7. Rs. 301 to Rs. 500 per mensem.	70	5. Rs. 251 and above.	7½ per cent of pay	...	...	...	...	
			8. Rs. 501 to Rs. 750 per mensem.	85							

Comparative statement showing the Dearness Allowance existing in Mysore and that in Government of India—*concld.*

MYSORE			GOVERNMENT OF INDIA							
...	Dearness Allowance in		.....	Dearness Allowance	...	House Rent Allowance		...	Compensatory Allowance at	
	Bangalore	Other places				Bangalore	Mysore		Bangalore	Mysore
(Officers drawing pay in excess of Rs. 800 but not in excess of Rs. 840 per mensem in Bangalore City and Rs. 850 per mensem in other places are allowed High Price Allowance to the extent necessary to bring their total emoluments to Rs. 850 and Rs. 840 per mensem, respectively).			9. Rs. 751 to Rs. 1,000 per mensem.	Rs. 100						
			10. Rs. 1,001 to Rs. 2,000 per mensem.	10 per cent of pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 150.						
			11. Rs. 2,001 to Rs. 2,150 per mensem.	The amount by which the pay falls short of Rs. 2,150.						
			B. Un-married Gazetted Officers.							
			12. Up to Rs. 1,000 ...	10 per cent of pay subject to a minimum of Rs. 40 and a maximum of Rs. 75 per per mensem.						
			13. Rs. 1,001 to Rs. 1,075	The amount by which the pay falls short of Rs. 1,075.						

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.— With reference to answer (*b*), may I know the various aspects that the Government are considering ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— I may say that this was very extensively discussed in a way at Mysore when we met. I do not know what further information my Hon'ble friend would require.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—I wanted to know what aspects the Government are considering to raise the dearness allowance for the non-gazetted officers, because there is conflict in the Hon'ble Minister's answers to (*e*) and (*b*).

As regards the action it is said that the matter is under consideration. But to my other question " whether the question of grant of similar rates of dearness allowance and other allowances to the non-gazetted officers is under the consideration " it is stated " No ".

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— Right. The answer to (*b*) is ' Yes ' ; the answer to (*e*) is ' No '.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—Are not the Government reconsidering the question of increasing the dearness allowance at all ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— We are considering.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—But it is stated ' No '. That is why some confusion is caused.

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— The Hon'ble Member who has put the question does not evidently understand his own question. Question (d) is " whether they are aware that in addition to higher rates of dearness allowance, the officials of the Government of India working in the State get house rent, city compensatory allowances, etc. " and the next question is " whether the question of grant of similar rates of dearness allowances and other allowances to the non-gazetted officers is under the consideration ". The word ' similar ' has reference to the rates of allowances given by the Government of India.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.— Dearness allowance.

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— The question is not of dearness allowance alone, but of similar rates of other allowances also given by the Government of India. To that the answer is ' No '. Therefore, the answer is correct.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.— That is why I ask the Government, what is it that they are considering ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— That which we are considering is the question of increasing the dearness allowance.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—The answer is definitely very vague.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Hon'ble Memher has not been able to follow the Hon'ble Minister evidently.

Sri K R. SREEKANTESWAR.—I am explaining. The question was " If so, the action taken by them on these representations ". The representations are to increase the dearness allowance.

Mr. SPEAKER.—They are considering the question of increasing the dearness allowance. But they are not considering the question of giving the same rates as those given by the Government of India.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—On what terms, how they are thinking, they can explain. Question (*g*) is : " whether the rates of dearness allowance paid by them have any relation to the cost of living index ". In reply to that, it is stated " Yes, to the extent practicable. " The Government thereby accept that the rates of dearness allowance must have a bearing on the cost of living index ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— We are trying to do our best having regard to the rise in the cost of living index, to the extent practicable. That is the whole meaning of that.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—May I know the cost of living index at present ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.— That has already been answered. About 300 and odd.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—So the dearness allowance must have a bearing on the cost of living index ?

The Hon'ble Sri H.C. DASAPPA.— If we could, I agree.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—My last question (*h*) is: "The reason for the wide disparity between the rates of dearness allowance paid to our non-gazetted officers and those paid to similar officials of the Government of India though the cost of living is the same for both". The answer to that is: "The reason lies in the ability of the concerned Government to pay." Does it mean that our Government are unable to raise the dearness allowance at all?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—It does not mean that.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—Shall I take it for granted that we may hand over all the non-gazetted staff to that Government which is able to raise their rate of Dearness Allowance?

The Honble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—There is no question of our handing over our non-gazetted staff to any other Government. It is not for us to do so. It is not our private property.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—Can there be any other Government which can pay more Dearness Allowance to the non-gazetted staff?

Sri K. PUTTASWAMY (Mandya District—General).—That question does not arise, I rise to a point of order. Such a question should not be permitted. It is rather insinuating.

Sri K. R. SREEKANTESWAR.—My submission is this. If our Government is unable to enhance the Dearness Allowance to our non-gazetted officers, will they hand them over to other Governments, because there are other Governments that can pay them more dearness allowance?

Mr. SPEAKER.—What can the Finance Minister do with regard to that?

Sri D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA (Chitaldrug District—General).—Is it not a fact that when the salaries were last revised in the State, the cost of living index was taken at 160, though actually it was more than that, that is about 280 or so?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—No. It was 240.

Sri D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA.—But the Pay Revision Committee assumed only 160 as the figure in order to determine the basic salary to be given to the non-gazetted officers. Is it not?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—I think this was answered last time itself. If the Hon'ble Member refers to the report of the Pay Revision Committe he will find the answer to his question.

Sri D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA.—Have the Government taken into consideration that it was definitely the suggestion or recommendation of the Pay Revision Committee that whenever the cost of living index increased by 20 points, the question of revising the dearness allowance should be taken up for consideration?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—That also is probably found in the report of the Pay Revision Committee itself.

Sri D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA.—May I take it that having considered all these points it is not a matter for the Government to take prompt and immediate action to implement the recommendations made by the Committee?

Mr. SPEAKER.—Does the Hon'ble Member not remember that a statement was made by the Government last time in this connection?

Sri D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA.—The question has come up now and so I find that no progress has been made since then.

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—You mean no progress has been made between Dasara and now?

Sri D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA.—It was stated on the last occasion that the matter was under consideration of the Government. How long will this be under consideration?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—The question will be settled as early as possible.

Sri D. M. SIDDAIYA (Mysore District—General).—Is it ever possible to give them increased rates of dearness allowance in the present state of financial stringency?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—Government will do their best as early as possible to see if the dearness allowance could be enhanced. They have got to explore the resources available and they are at it.

Sri D. M. SIDDAIYA.—Is it a fact that this aspect has attained paramount importance because the Central Government have increased the dearness allowance ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—It is not merely because the Central Government have enhanced their rates. We are convinced that there is a need to raise the dearness allowance here.

Sri D. M. SIDDAIYA.—How long will they take to increase it ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—It is already answered.

Janab SYED ABDUR RAHMAN (Chikmagalur *cum* Shimoga—General).—Have the non-gazetted officers made any representations to the Government ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—It is also answered already.

Janab SYED ABDUR RAHMAN.—How long will the Government take to decide the question ?

Mr. SPEAKER.—It is answered already.

Janab SYED ABDUR RAHMAN.—The reply was as early as possible. But I want to know what will be the exact time by which they will decide. Will it be 3 months or 6 months ? They require something to keep their life going.

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—I have already said that the matter is receiving the active consideration of the Government. We will try to do it as early as possible. I cannot give any exact date. All that I can say is that the Government are as sympathetic towards the non-gazetted officers as any other section of this Hon'ble House.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA (Mysore District—General).—Can the Government tell me when the basic pay was increased ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—In January 1947.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—Have the Government of India increased the basic pay ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—None that I know of since January 1947.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—Can the Government tell me the total additional cost if the dearness allowance is increased by Rs. 6 ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—I have already answered that question. It will be round about Rs. 50 lakhs.

Sri H. M. CHANNABASAPPA.—Have the Government been able to find out the resources to meet this need ?

The Hon'ble Sri H. C. DASAPPA.—We are trying to do it.

Applications for Irrigation Pumps.

Q.—13. Sri M. GOVINDA REDDY (Chitaldrug District—General).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of applications received for irrigation pumps in each taluk in Chitaldrug District in 1950 ;

(*b*) the number of applications received for sanction of electric current for irrigation purposes in each taluk in the above district in the above period ;

(*c*) (i) the number of applications sanctioned, (ii) the number pending, (iii) and the number refused ?

A.—The Hon'ble Sri K. T. BHASHYAM (Minister for Law and Labour).—

		Chitaldrug	*Challakere*	*Jagalur*	*Hiriyur*	*Harihar*	*Davangere*	*Molakalmuru*
(*a*)		36	7	...	...	2	...	3
(*b*)		135	517	134	181	7	35	310
(*c*)	(i)	64	313	111	..	3	12	1
	(ii)	71	204	23	181	4	23	309
	(iii)	No application was refused.						

Sri M. GOVINDA REDDY.—In Chitaldrug, it is stated that 135 applications were received and only 64 were sanctioned. May I know the reason why such a small number was sanctioned ?

The Hon'ble Sri K.T. BHASHYAM.—It must be for want of funds, or for want of materials or those who had